

375-3-1-.16**Eligibility for Veteran's, Honorary or Distinctive Driver's License and Identification Cards**

(1) (a) Veteran's, honorary or distinctive driver's licenses shall be issued to veterans who have satisfied all other requirements for issuance of a driver's license upon receipt by the Department of a Certificate of Eligibility issued for said veteran by the Georgia Department of Veteran's Services.

(b) In order to be eligible for a Certificate of Eligibility, a veteran must present evidence of the following:

(i) Residency:

(A) A veteran must have been a resident of the State of Georgia at the time of his or her enlistment or commissioning;

(B) A veteran must be a resident of the State of Georgia at the time of application for the license, or have been a resident of the State of Georgia for at least two years immediately preceding the date of application for the license; and

(ii) Service:

(A) A veteran must have been on honorable, active duty service in the armed forces of the United States or a reserve component thereof during wartime or any conflict when personnel were committed by the President of the United States, whether or not such veteran was assigned to a unit or division which directly participated in such war or conflict, except for periodic transfer from reserve status to active duty status for training purposes.

(B) For purposes of this regulation, service during one (1) or more of the following conflicts shall satisfy this requirement:

Mexican Border	May 9, 1916 through April 5, 1917
World War I	April 6, 1917 through November 11, 1918. The period for a veteran who served with the U.S. Military forces in Russia would include April 6, 1917, through April 1, 1920.
World War II	December 7, 1941 through December 31, 1946
Korea	June 27, 1950 through January 31, 1955
Lebanon Conflict	July 1, 1958 through November 1, 1958
Vietnam Conflict	July 1, 1958 through August 4, 1964
Berlin Conflict	August 14, 1961 through June 1, 1963
Vietnam	August 5, 1964 through May 7, 1975
Dominican Republic Conflict	April 28, 1965 through September 21, 1966

Grenada Conflict	October 23, 1983 through November 21, 1983
Panama Liberation	December 30, 1989 through February 15, 1990
Saudi Arabia Iraq Kuwait Persian Gulf	August 2, 1990 - ending date unknown at this time

(2) A member of the National Guard or Reserve Forces shall obtain a letter from the Adjutant General of the Georgia National Guard, or his designee evidencing twenty (20) or more years creditable service therein. This letter shall be forwarded to the Department.

(3) A surviving spouse of a veteran who would have been eligible for a veteran's license shall follow the procedure in sub-section (1) and may then be issued an honorary license.

(4) A spouse of a veteran who is or would have been eligible for a veteran's license, but has been disabled to the extent that he or she is unable to operate a motor vehicle safely, shall acquire an honorary license by having the disabled veteran surrender his license to the Department, or if he or she has no license notify the Department of his disability. Such surrender of license or notification must be accompanied by a letter from a physician evidencing the disability. The applicant shall then follow the procedure set out in sub-section (1).

(5) Once eligibility is established pursuant to sub-sections (1, 2, 3, 4) the licensee need not reestablish eligibility.

(6) Any customer who would be eligible for a driver's license under the provisions of this regulations shall also be eligible for an identification card at no charge.

(7) National Guard drivers licenses shall be issued free of charge by the Department to any guardsman who meets the requirements of ~~Ga. L. 1978, Act 1460, (Ga. Code 68B-218, as amended)~~ O.C.G.A. §40-5-36. Each guardsman shall present to any driver's license examiner a completed "Certificate of Eligibility for Georgia National Guard Drivers License," (DDS-318),* their current National Guard identification card and surrender their existing Georgia Drivers License or Instructional Permit to such examiner. The National Guard driver's license shall be valid for five (5) years or until the Department receives written notice from the Adjutant General, or his agent, that the guardsman is no longer a member of the Georgia National Guard in good standing.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§40-5-4, 40-5-36 and 40-5-103.

SYNOPSIS

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND MAIN FEATURES OF PROPOSED RULE

The purpose of this proposed amendment is to modify an existing regulation in light of changes in the governing statutes, specifically the changes made by House Bill 269, enacted at the 2011 Session of the Georgia General Assembly, which allows for the issuance of free honorary identification cards.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN EXISTING AND PROPOSED RULES

Paragraph (6) is added in its entirety.

Paragraph (7) was amended to remove references to prior versions of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated.